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Sent:

Tuesday, February 20, 2018 12:22 PM

To:

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(b) (6), (b) (7)(C)

Subject:

Concerns with Nino Perrotta

February 20, 2018

To whom it may concern:

Cc: Susan Bodine, Patrick Traylor, Larry Starfield, Henry Barnet, Pam Mazakas, Jessica Taylor, Ted Stanich

I apologize in advance that this letter is being written anonymously. I would much prefer to address these concerns directly as I fear anonymity can tend to create doubts to the validity of the claims. That said, I am fearful of the repercussions and retaliation that would undoubtedly come from my openness.

Over many months I have been witness to many actions that have made me very uncomfortable, but I have remained quiet. I do not feel I can keep these concerns to myself anymore and would much prefer to bring them forward to management for your awareness. If the actions below are deemed appropriate or permissible I will accept that conclusion, but I defer to your expertise to make a proper assessment. Below are written to the best of my recollection but are not in sequential order of occurrence. The majority of my concerns specifically are in reference to actions, and/or directions of the Special Agent in Charge, Nino Perrotta.

- Multiple instances of Nino Perrotta aggressively and verbally abusing Special Agents including using profanity. There is not one instance of this behavior, but rather it is ongoing and pervasive. Other Agents can attest to this action occurring as it regularly happens in the presence of others including at staff meetings.
- Routine use of lights and sirens while transporting the Administrator in the limo during non-emergency situations. To this point, we are lucky no one has been in an accident or struck a pedestrian, but I fear it is only a matter of time. This is widely known to be against OCEFT policy and the rules of common sense, but it continues out of fear of Nino Perrotta.
- Verbal abuse and profanity by Nino Perrotta of CID Agents, Advance Staff and other political appointees, including the Director of Scheduling and Advance and the Deputy Chief of Staff among others. Subordinates are also tasked with aggressively contacting political appointees for purposes of intimidation. Subordinates follow through with this inappropriate request of action by Nino Perrotta for fear of retaliation.
- A sweep of the Administrator's office for unauthorized electronic devices was done last year. This action was done at EPA expense however it did not follow any official channels or proper procurement regulations. Further, the sweep was conducted by an individual with close personal ties to Nino Perrotta. Additionally, the staff responsible for paying expenses were made to "clean up Nino's mess" and retroactively put paperwork in place to authorize the expense thus paying his friend for unauthorized work.
- Potential instances of time and attendance abuses by Nino Perrotta.

- Misrepresenting perceived threats to the Administrator to falsely justify use of higher cost premium class travel accommodations (as has been recently reported in the news).
 - o These instances have also been extended to justify premium class accommodations for the Administrator's staff.
- At the direction of the Administrator, a secure room inside his office was commissioned despite no need in any prior Administrations given that there are secure rooms in easily accessible proximity to the Administrator's Office. Either way, that action moved forward and details of which were eventually provided to Congress. Albeit hearsay, it is my understanding that the total cost/details reported to Congress was wildly misrepresented and cost more than twice what was reported.

There are many other concerns but my hope is that the above items will result in some sort of review of Nino Perrotta and the day to day operations of PSD, which will allow the true facts to come to light. My intent was to limit the above to fact-based information and information I strongly believe is fact. I did not want to put any emotion or personal perception in the above. That said, I find the behaviors of the law enforcement leadership to be entirely unprofessional and unlike that of any organization I have ever encountered. I fear that this behavior has been enabled directly by senior leadership and I would really like it to finally be addressed.

Thank you for reading.

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